



**G. REID LYON, PH.D.**

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Dr. G. Reid Lyon is a distinguished professor of education policy and leadership at Southern Methodist University. He holds a joint appointment in the School of Brain and Behavior Sciences at the University of Texas-Dallas where he is a distinguished scientist at the Center for Brain Health. From 1992 until 2005, Dr. Lyon served as a research psychologist and the Chief of the Child Development and Behavior Branch within the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD) at the National Institutes of Health (NIH). He was responsible for the direction, development and management of research programs in developmental and cognitive neuroscience, developmental psychology, behavioral pediatrics, reading development and disabilities, learning disabilities, early childhood development, and school readiness.

While at the National Institute of Health, Dr. Lyon worked closely with the White House, the U.S. Department of Education, and Congress on the development of evidence-based education policy. From 2001 until 2005, he served as an advisor on education research and policies to President George W. Bush and First Lady Laura Bush in addition to directing his programs at the NIH. Dr. Lyon has testified numerous times before U.S. Senate and House committees, addressing issues related to the role of neuroscience in education, the need for scientific research to guide educational practices and policies, evidence-based teacher education, early childhood development, learning disabilities, reading development and reading disorders, the re-authorization of Head Start, and the re-authorization of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). In 2006, Dr. Lyon was named one of the ten most influential people in American education during the last decade by the Editorial Projects in Education Research Center (Education Week) for his work in ensuring that scientific research occupies a central role in educational practices and policy.

Dr. Lyon received his Ph.D. from the University of New Mexico in 1978 with a dual concentration in Special Education (Learning Disorders and Disabilities) and psychology (developmental neuropsychology) (5-year doctoral program). He has served on the faculties of the University of Alabama - Birmingham (Special Education and Educational Psychology), Northwestern University (Communication Science and Disorders; Director of the neuropsychology laboratory) and the University of Vermont School Of Medicine (Neurology). He has authored, co-authored and edited more than 130 peer-reviewed journal

articles, books, and book chapters on developmental neuroscience, learning differences and disabilities, reading and reading difficulties, and educational policy. He has served as a psychologist, third-grade classroom teacher and a special educator in the public schools.

Dr. Lyon served as a U.S. Army paratrooper and is a decorated veteran of the Vietnam War. He served for 18 months as a Recon Sergeant in the 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division and the 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division from 1968 to 1970. He was awarded the Bronze Star, the Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry, and the Combat Infantry Badge among numerous other decorations.